



2008-2012 Strategic Plan

2nd Quarter (FY 2010)

Report of Progress

Since adoption of the KDFWR Strategic Plan FY 2008-2012 (July 1, 2007), the Department has made noticeable strides and progress on a number of strategic and operational objectives. The department continues to implement strategies and action plans to help realize our achievements; while also identifying new methods to best publicize our successes.

Described below is a summary of the department's efforts toward achieving specific operational objectives during the 2nd quarter of Fiscal Year 2010 (October – December, 2009).

Objective

Summary Progress

1.1.b. Submit a minimum of one project per year for the National Fish Habitat Initiative by the end of FY 2012.	<i>Over the past quarter, the Trammel Creek fish passage grant project submitted as part of the National Fish Habitat Initiative.</i>
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1.1.e. To expand stream restoration projects by 43,000 linear feet per year and locate at least two land acquisition projects under the FILO program by the end of FY 2012.	<i>44,314 Linear Feet expanded using FILO funds; 1,056 Linear Feet using American Recovery & Reinvestment Act (ARRA) funds. Sturgis Forestland Group Tract submitted and approved by MRT.</i>
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1.2.c. To improve 5,000 acres of forestland habitat annually by the end of FY 2012.	<i>Currently two WMA's are in the process of Timber Stand Improvement planning: Ballard WMA and Kaler Bottoms WMA. The Doug Travis WMA has been in the process of finishing their timber harvest. Peabody WMA is in the initial stages of investigating the implementation of forestland habitat improvements on approximately 2,000 acres.</i>
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1.3.b. To increase acres of wetland habitat, development, restoration, or enhancement by 25 percent annually by the end of FY 2012.	<i>Current Wetland Reserve Program contract for Doug Travis WMA would add an additional 40 acres of wetland habitat for waterfowl on public ground. Yellowbank WMA has submitted a Ducks Unlimited major donor application for project assistance to flood an additional 45-acres. Peabody WMA is in planning stages of establishing a water control structure to manipulate 14-acres of shallow</i>
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water. Barren WMA has begun permitting phase for potential work on 40-acres of shallow water at Calvert Springs.

1.4.d. To develop and implement plans for restoration of state or federally listed imperiled species by end of FY 2010.

*This past quarter, there were four propagation projects for state imperiled species of fish under the State Wildlife Grant: Alligator Gar, Sturgeon, Kentucky Arrow Darter and Cumberland Darter; while fifty-eight (58) juvenile Cumberland Darters were released by the Fisheries Division in Cogur Fork, McCreary Co., in the Daniel Boone National Forest. Additionally, the Wildlife Division recently found threatened and endangered species on Ballard WMA. In general, the work continues on management plans for avian species of greatest conservation need; species are grouped by like habitat needs and refinement for individual species is noted within the document as needed. Work has also begun on *P. capax* and work plans for augmenting listed mussel species is already completed for 2010. Finally, the White Nose Syndrome (WNS) response plan has been completed for its use in dealing with WNS and its effects on listed bat species in Kentucky.*

1.5.d. To develop a commercial fisheries plan that includes strategies for sustainable, non-conflicting use of the resource by FY 2010.

A seasonal employee has been hired to collect paddlefish data from commercially harvested fish taken from the Ohio River and Kentucky and Barkley lakes. This data will be incorporated into the plan for commercial fisheries.

1.5.f. To increase hatchery production capability by 20 percent by the end of FY 2012.

This past quarter, the Engineering staff has worked with consultant on a feasibility study to expand both state-owned hatcheries. Also, the Fisheries Division has initiated a feasibility study for the hatchery upgrades, which will be completed by the end of June 2010. Construction phase will begin at the beginning of FY 2011. Numerous discussions have been held with U.S.F.W.S and Corps of Engineers for funding of the aeration tower at Wolf Creek National Fish Hatchery. This aeration tower, if installed, is expected to increase trout production at the hatchery by 10-20%.

2.1.a. To build or renovate 6 boating access sites per year by the end of FY 2012.

Ramps completed or renovated since October 1, 2009 include Ghent Boat Ramp, Carroll County; Craig's Creek Boat Ramp, Gallatin County; City of Hazard Boat Ramp, Perry County; and Courtesy Dock at the Fint Ramp, Anderson County

The department also completed maintenance on two primitive ramps on the Doug Travis WMA, and a new boat ramp for Town Creek tract of Yellowbank WMA is in engineering stage.

2.1.e. To develop 25 new bank access sites by end of FY 2012.

Bank Access Sites Completed since October, 2009 include the Bert Combs Lake Fishing Pier as well as at Upper Sportsman's and General Butler State Park lakes. The department also has negotiated with private hydroelectric companies to develop bank access at Smithland, Cannelton, and Meldahl Locks & Dams on the Ohio River. Currently, bank access sites under construction or being ordered include the Kentucky Dam State Resort Park Fishing Jetty; the Reformatory Lake Fishing Pier; and the Marion County Lake Fishing Pier.

2.1.g. To establish 10 new hunting or fishing opportunities in municipalities by the end of FY 2011.

Since the beginning of this fiscal year, the Fisheries Division has been successful in increasing the number of lakes included in the Fishing in Neighborhoods (FIN) program from 6 to 30 different lakes. These lakes will be available as part of this fishing program beginning in March 2010.

2.3.b. To increase the number of ADA accessible locations for fish and wildlife related activities by 2 per year by the end of FY 2012.

During this past quarter of FY 2010, ongoing ADA access projects include the Kentucky Dam Village State Resort Park Fishing Jetty and the Marion County Lake Fishing Pier. ADA sites were also part of the negotiations for bank access at the three Ohio River lock and dam hydroelectric projects: Cannelton, Smithland, Meldahl. Finally, all Wildlife regions have been reviewing the department's current areas for ADA accessibility for mobility impaired hunters, and proposed sites will include Schaaf Tract in Fulton County and the Livingston county Wildlife Management Area. Recently, the Wildlife Division also opened Minor Clark Waterfowl Hatchery Hunts to mobility-impaired hunting this year.

3.3.j. To increase the number of paid subscriptions of Kentucky Afield to 35,000 by the end of FY 2010.

Within the past quarter, the Kentucky Afield TV & Magazine staff produced a combo package, which included a Field Dressing DVD, Calendar and one-year magazine subscription for those who subscribed via the Kentucky Afield online store. This special offer netted 1,000 paid subscriptions to the Kentucky Afield Magazine, which increases the number of paid subscriptions to 26,500.

3.3.k. To increase the number of media outlets carrying "Kentucky Afield" by 50 percent by the end of FY 2012.

Kentucky Afield TV saw an expansion of viewers during the past quarter by the show welcoming three (3) more cable affiliates covering Ohio and northeast Kentucky. With these new additions, Kentucky Afield television is now broadcast in eleven (11) different affiliates, not include its availability on youtube.com, outdoorschannel.com, and our own agency website—which independently saw an increase in online viewers of 13,675 in the last part of calendar year 2009.

3.4.a. To increase by 50 percent each year the number of members signed up for the Kentucky Conservation Coalition by the end of FY 2012.

The Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources Facebook page now has over 7000 "friends" while the Kentucky Conservation Coalition, which is managed by the Kentucky Fish and Wildlife Foundation, is now up to 70,000 subscribers.